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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 440
By Haun

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Calvin Ward, the most decorated soldier of World War I.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud that our fine state has, over its two hundred year history, been appropriately recognized as the "Volunteer State", in honor of the numerous contributions made by Tennessee soldiers who have fought bravely to protect our basic freedoms; and

WHEREAS, Pall Mall, Tennessee native Sgt. Alvin C. York, widely proclaimed to be "the most decorated soldier of World War I", has been appropriately recognized with a Tennessee Historical Commission marker, a high school, major highway, national guard armory and veteran's hospital named in his honor, along with a statue on the grounds of the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, sadly, Private Calvin C. Ward, who fought bravely during World War I and won more medals than Sgt. York, has been virtually forgotten, even in his home area of western Greene County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, when he left home to join the war effort in the summer of 1917, Private Ward listed Morristown as his home town; the Talley-Ward Recreation Center is the only known memorial of any kind that bears his name in his native East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Private Ward and one other soldier captured a German machine gun nest, killed three enemy soldiers and captured seven prisoners; and

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WHEREAS, for his noble duty, he received six American awards, including the prestigious Medal of Honor, the Silver Star and two Purple Hearts; and

WHEREAS, appropriately, Private Ward also received six foreign awards, including the illustrious French *Croix di Guerre*, with palm; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this gallant soldier be belatedly recognized for his exemplary service to his country; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Calvin Ward, recognizing his noble service to his country and to Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copies.